

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

104 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0104

3 June 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY TANK-AUTOMOTIVE AND ARMAMENTS COMMAND (ATTN: MS. WATMORE)

SUBJECT: Availability of Army Appropriations to Pay Cash Awards for Employees Who Enroll in Commercial "Frequent Flyer" Programs

This responds to your request that we reconsider our memorandum, subject as above, dated 14 March 1997, in which we concluded that Army appropriations are not available for the purpose of paying cash awards to employees who enroll in commercial "frequent flyer" programs. We reaffirm that conclusion. In our opinion, the Government Employees Incentive Awards Act does not authorize such an award program, notwithstanding the General Services Administration's gain sharing initiatives, of which we were aware. In addition, a "frequent flyer" award program clearly cannot be undertaken pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 1124—the statutory basis for cash award programs for military members. Our decision, therefore, furthers the policy interest of maintaining uniformity, to the extent practicable, between cash award programs for civilian employees and members of the Armed Forces.

Matt Reres
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(Ethics & Fiscal)

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